

PLYMOUTH BOARD OF SELECTMEN

TUESDAY, JUNE 7, 2011

TOWN HALL MAYFLOWER ROOM

The Selectmen held a meeting on Tuesday, June 7, 2011 at 7:00 p.m. at Town Hall in the Mayflower Room.

Present: William P. Hallisey, Jr., Chairman
John T. Mahoney, Jr., Vice Chairman
Sergio O. Harnais
Mathew J. Muratore
Belinda A. Brewster

Mark Stankiewicz, Town Manager
Melissa Arrighi, Assistant Town Manager

CALL TO ORDER

Chairman Hallisey called the meeting to order at 7:05 p.m. and led the Pledge of Allegiance.

DONATION FOR PARTING WAYS SIGNAGE

Assistant Town Manager Melissa Arrighi introduced Parks Superintendent Ted Bubbins and Parting Ways member Lynda Thomas LeGay for the presentation of a donation for signage at the Parting Ways site in West Plymouth.

Mr. Bubbins displayed a rendering of the sign that will be installed at the Parting Ways historic site, for which Ms. LeGay and her family have generously donated funding. The sign, he explained, will tell the story of the African-American Revolutionary War patriots who lived, and were buried, at the site.

Ms. LeGay stated that she was proud to present the Town of Plymouth with a donation of \$2,500—made in honor of her parents, the late Mozelle and Ted Thomas—for the cost to create and install interpretive signage at Parting Ways. Ms. LeGay noted that, for many years, her parents were behind-the-scenes supporters of the Parting Ways organization's efforts to memorialize the historic landmark. Ms. LeGay also recognized Barbara Monteiro and Bosco Pierce, supporters and former members of the Parting Ways organization who were in the audience to witness the presentation of the donation.

On a motion by Selectman Brewster, seconded by Vice Chairman Mahoney, the Board voted to accept the \$2,500 donation from Ms. LeGay for signage at the Parting Ways site. Voted 5-0-0, approved. Chairman Hallisey thanked Ms. LeGay on behalf of the Board of Selectmen and Town of Plymouth for her generous donation.

Prior to commencing the evening's agenda items, Chairman Hallisey acknowledged and welcomed the members of Boy Scout Troop 151, who were attending the meeting as part of earning the Boy Scouts Community Merit badge.

LICENSES

ONE DAY ALL ALCOHOL LIQUOR LICENSE

On a motion by Selectman Harnais, seconded by Vice Chairman Mahoney, the Board voted to approve the following One Day All Alcohol Liquor License, as detailed. Voted 5-0-0, approved.

❖ **Eel River Beach Club** (Susan Romano, Warren Avenue) requested two (2) One Day All Alcohol licenses for events to be held at the beach club on the following dates:

- June 17, 2011 from 6:00 p.m. to 10:00 p.m.
- July 16, 2011 from 6:00 p.m. to 11:00 p.m.

Liquor liability will be in place before the licenses are released. The Eel River Beach Club is a non-profit organization.

PEDI-CAB OPERATOR LICENSE (NEW)

On a motion by Selectman Muratore, seconded by Selectman Harnais, the Board voted to approve the following Pedi-Cab Operator licenses, as listed. Voted 5-0-0, approved.

❖ For **Plymouth Pedicab** (4 Freedom Street, Michael Tubin, Owner):

- Michael Balonis, Jr. (159 Federal Furnace Road, Plymouth)
- Kevin Ribeiro (207 Samoset Street, Plymouth)
- Vincent Lifrieri (63 Liberty Street, Plymouth)
- Joshua Glynn (52 Allerton Street, Plymouth)
- Ryan Tavern (21 Walnut Road, Norwell)

Issuance of the above license is subject to review of the requisite CORI background check.

AUTOMATIC AMUSEMENT (NEW)

On a motion by Selectman Muratore, seconded by Selectman Harnais, the Board voted to approve the following Automatic Amusement License, as detailed. Voted 5-0-0, approved.

❖ **Patsfan Inc. d/b/a Main Street Sports** (52 Main Street, Brian Vogel, Owner)

- Applying for three machines

The Building Dept. has determined that there is enough square footage for these machines.

AUTO DEALER CLASS II (AMENDMENT)

On a motion by Selectman Harnais, seconded by Selectman Muratore, the Board voted to approve the following Auto Dealer Class II License, as detailed. Voted 5-0-0, approved.

- ❖ **Matthew Jay Burke d/b/a Plymouth Auto Sales** (15 Roberts Road, Matthew Burke)

No display at this location.

Issuance of the above license is subject to submission of a surety bond.

OUTDOOR AMPLIFIED MUSIC

- ❖ **The Meta Comet** (John Ford, 58C Main Street) requested an Outdoor Amplified Music Permit for “eclectic and acoustic” music to be played on the outdoor deck of the establishment.

Chairman Hallisey invited John Ford, owner of The Meta Comet, to provide the Board with further information on his request.

Mr. Ford explained that his business location at 58C Main Street falls between the Guru Indian Restaurant and the Main Street Marketplace antiques mall, in a small space formerly occupied by an art gallery. There is a small window on the front of the store that faces the street, he said, and inside the store, from behind this window, he would like to host music and spoken word. Mr. Ford indicated that he applied for an outdoor music permit so that, from time to time, he may have music / performances on the small patio behind the store.

Mr. Ford fielded questions from the Selectmen regarding residential abutters and the hours during which he intends to have music. Mr. Ford indicated that his business does not abut any residences; rather, the business abuts Guru Restaurant’s music room, which, he said, has music until midnight—amplified through what may be the most powerful sound system in town. Because he would not be able to compete with the sound level from Guru, Mr. Ford said, music on the patio of The Meta Comet would take place between the hours of noon to 10:00 p.m.

On a motion by Vice Chairman Mahoney, seconded by Selectman Harnais, the Board voted to approve an Outdoor Amplified Music Permit for The Meta Comet, 58 Main Street, John Ford (owner). Voted 5-0-0, approved.

ADMINISTRATIVE NOTES

Meeting Minutes – On a motion by Selectman Muratore, seconded by Selectman Harnais, the Board approved the minutes of the March 1, 2011 Selectmen’s meeting. Voted 4-0-1, approved, with an abstention from Selectman Brewster, who was not a member of the Board at the time of this meeting.

Deed of Easement – The Board approved the acceptance of a *Deed of Easement* from Carol G. Smith, as Trustee of The Plymouth Trust, for easement over a certain parcel of land situated on the northwesterly side of East Russell Mills Road shown as Lot 4-4 on Map 82.

Donation from Wetlands Restoration Partnership – The Board accepted a gift of \$500 from the Mass. Corporate Wetlands Restoration Partnership for use towards the Eel River Headwaters Restoration Project Dedication Event to be held on June 17, 2011.

TOWN MANAGER’S REPORT

Veterans Services Officers Association – Town Manager Mark Stankiewicz reported that he and Plymouth’s Veterans Agent, Roxanne Whitbeck, attended a recent meeting of the Southeast Massachusetts Veterans Services Officers Association, which was held in Plymouth on May 31, 2011. Discussion during the meeting, he said, centered on services for the vision impaired, and attendees were given the opportunity to pose questions to the State Director of Veterans Services.

NRC Annual Assessment of Pilgrim Station – Mr. Stankiewicz informed the Board that the United States Nuclear Regulatory Commission (“NRC”) held its annual assessment of Pilgrim Nuclear Power Station at the Plymouth Hilton Garden Inn on June 1, 2011. During the meeting, he explained, NRC representatives provided a presentation on its review of Pilgrim’s safety performance for 2010 and fielded questions from the public. Mr. Stankiewicz noted that there were many residents from Cape Cod who expressed concern during the meeting about an emergency evacuation plan that would essentially require Cape residents to drive toward the power station in order to evacuate from the 50-mile safety zone. In addition, he reported, the chairman of the Nuclear Matters Committee (“NMC”), Jeff Berger, addressed the NRC to raise the NMC’s contention that Entergy must utilize real-time meteorological data in the event of an emergency at the power station.

Coastal Environmental Education Program – Mr. Stankiewicz was pleased to report that the Makepeace Neighborhood Fund awarded a \$5,000 grant to the Town for a “Coastal Environmental Education Program.” The grant, he said, will be used to (a) purchase interpretive displays at Long Beach about geology and (b) install monofilament fishing line recycling containers at five locations along the beach.

Coastal Pollution Remediation Program – Mr. Stankiewicz announced that the Massachusetts Office of Coastal Zone Management awarded a \$45,980 grant to the Town under the Coastal Pollution Remediation Program. The funds, he said, will be used to design storm water improvements at Pond Road and Great Herring Pond. Mr. Stankiewicz commended David Gould and Kerin McCall from the Division of Environmental Management for their work on securing these grants.

Wind Turbines – Mr. Stankiewicz reported that the Town held a pre-bid conference on the Town’s Request for Bids to construct two wind turbines on municipal property adjacent to the wastewater treatment facility.

Plymouth Literacy Program – Mr. Stankiewicz notified the Board and the public that the Plymouth Public Library’s Literacy Program will hold its annual recognition and G.E.D. graduation program on June 16, 2011 at the Plimoth Plantation.

PUBLIC COMMENT

Steve Lydon of Precinct 12 spoke of (what he described as) a dangerous situation at the Manomet Transfer Station on Beaver Dam Road. The cedar fence that the Town installed around the entry/exit area—though aesthetically pleasing—creates a sightline obstruction for motorists attempting to make a left turn from the station, he said. Mr. Lydon inquired if the height of the fence could be lowered to alleviate the problem.

Gerry Sirrico addressed the Board with a number of concerns from the membership of Town Meeting Precinct 3. Mr. Sirrico noted that he and his fellow representatives from Precinct 3 have, for many years, discussed their concerns about the need for restoration work on the Civil War Monument on the Training Green. Precinct 3 members are pleased that the proposed repair of the monument has been submitted as a capital project to Town Meeting, he said, but the walkways—and, perhaps, ornamental fencing around the monument base—should also be considered as part of the entire project. In addition, Mr. Sirrico asked that the Town re-paint the center lines along South Street from Sandwich Street to Mount Pleasant, as they are significantly faded. Mr. Sirrico also advised the DPW to secure the former waterway on the Holmes Dam (off Summer Street), as there appears to be several rusted pieces of corrugated steel that could pose a hazard. Lastly, Mr. Sirrico asked if the Town Manager’s Office could speak with the Department of Conservation & Recreation about remaining consistent with litter and graffiti removal at Pilgrim Memorial State Park.

Mary LeSueur of the Plymouth Area League of Women Voters thanked Vice Chairman Mahoney, Selectman Brewster, and Mr. Stankiewicz for attending the League’s recent forum on the ways by which municipalities manage solid waste. The League, she said, supports Pay-As-You-Throw (“PAYT”) as the first step in dealing with Plymouth’s solid waste, as the information provided at the recent forum indicated that PAYT is the most equitable and effective way to encourage recycling and reduce waste. Ms. LeSueur commented that the Town of Duxbury has renamed PAYT as “Save As You Throw,” because the savings achieved (following the implementation of the program) has been so significant.

Vice Chairman Mahoney inquired as to when DPW Director Jonathan Beder would be ready to provide his presentation on solid waste options. Mr. Stankiewicz estimated that the presentation will take place sometime in July.

JULY 4TH UPDATE

Ken Tavares and Jeff Metcalfe of July 4 Plymouth, Inc. provided the Selectmen with an update on their efforts to organize and raise funds for the July 4th parade and fireworks events.

Mr. Tavares reported that www.july4plymouth.com is up-and-running, with all donors listed, to-date. The parade will step off at 9:30 a.m. from Cordage Park, and, if fundraising is complete, the fireworks will begin between 9:00 and 9:15 p.m. Fundraising has gone well, Mr. Tavares said, noting that, between local businesses, individual contributions, and two fundraisers, the committee is only \$17,400 shy of its total fundraising goal. Donations, he indicated, may be made through the website or via check, made payable to July 4 Plymouth, Inc., P.O. Box 1776, Plymouth, MA 02360. Mr. Tavares thanked the Town Manager's Office, DPW, Police Department, and Fire Department for their assistance with the July 4th events, and he promised the Selectmen that he would return in two weeks to provide the latest fundraising report.

Mr. Metcalfe provided more specific information on the (anticipated) fireworks display, which will again be conducted by Atlas Pyrotechnics, the vendor that has provided this service to Plymouth for over 20 years. Mr. Metcalfe called for volunteers to assist with various aspects of the parade, noting that citizens may contact him directly at (508) 746-9244.

In response to an inquiry from Chairman Hallisey, Mr. Tavares explained that the number of visitors expected to attend Plymouth's July 4th events is estimated to be in the thousands, as evidenced by the number of political candidates who wish to participate in Plymouth's parade.

Chairman Hallisey thanked Mr. Tavares and Mr. Metcalfe for their annual efforts to produce Plymouth's July 4th events.

CASH INVESTMENT POLICY

Lynne Barrett, Plymouth's Finance Director, provided a presentation on the Cash Investment Policy that her department has developed for formal adoption by the Town. Ms. Barrett explained that the Finance Department has, in essence, followed this policy during her tenure with the Town, but Plymouth's auditors have recommended that the Selectmen vote to formalize such guiding principles.

Ms. Barrett reported that there are existing statutes and guidelines by which the Town's Treasurer must abide, in addition to new requirements prompted by the Governmental Accounting Standards Board ("GASB"). The aforementioned requirements and guidelines have since been incorporated into the Cash Investment Policy, she said. Lastly, Ms. Barrett noted that the Advisory & Finance Committee has reviewed and approved the policy.

On a motion by Selectman Muratore, seconded by Selectman Harnais, the Board voted to formally adopt the Cash Investment Policy, as presented by Finance Director Lynne Barrett. Voted 5-0-0, approved.

2010 AUDIT REVIEW

Ms. Barrett introduced the presentation on the 2010 Audit Review, which represents the final report of the independent auditing firm Powers & Sullivan on the Town's financial statements for the fiscal year ending June 30, 2010. Ms. Barrett explained the role of the Town's Audit Committee in the auditing process, and she then turned the presentation over to Kevin Feeney, chairman of the Audit Committee.

Mr. Feeney explained that the audit report provided by Powers & Sullivan is broken down into three segments:

- Management Letter
- Basic Financial Statements
- Reports on Federal Award Programs

Mr. Feeney was pleased to note that there were no significant deficiencies or weaknesses identified within the Management Letter. Six comments within the Management Letter from prior years have been resolved, eight comments are partially resolved, and, of the three new comments, Mr. Feeney said, two have already been resolved. Such reduction in procedural deficiencies represents a positive improvement over previous years, as a result of the efforts made by the Finance Director and her staff, Mr. Feeney explained.

Craig Peacock of Powers & Sullivan addressed the Board to review specific aspects of the Management Letter, Financial Statements, and Federal Award Reports. Mr. Peacock pointed out that the Management Letter is always intended to be critical in nature; it does not, he said, recognize the positive achievements and improvements made by the Town. It should be noted, he said, that Plymouth's Finance Department has demonstrated that it is implementing the recommendations set forth in the annual Management Letter, as evidenced by the numerous procedural improvements made over the past several years. Mr. Peacock affirmed that there are no significant issues or deficiencies with regard to Plymouth's financial procedures, and financial reconciliations are solid.

Following Mr. Peacock's report, Ms. Barrett and Mr. Feeney fielded a number of questions from Selectman Muratore regarding the issues outlined in the Management Letter. Ms. Barrett explained that several of the issues can be solved within a short time frame, while others will take time to resolve. The addition of an internal auditor position for FY2012 will help a good deal towards tightening internal controls and addressing deficiencies, Ms. Barrett noted.

Mr. Feeney indicated that the Audit Committee voted to engage the firm of Powers & Sullivan to perform the Town's FY2011 financial audit, based on the firm's experience

and history with the Town—as well as the fact that the firm has maintained the same rates for the last four years.

Vice Chairman Mahoney noted that it was a pleasure to serve as the Selectmen’s representative on the Audit Committee, and he thanked Mr. Feeney and the other members of committee for the time that they devoted to the task. Chairman Hallisey recognized the work done by Ms. Barrett, the staff of the Finance Department, and the members of the Audit Committee for their work on the 2010 Audit Report.

BOARD LIAISON / DESIGNEE UPDATES

Nuclear Matters Committee – Selectman Muratore notified the public that the Nuclear Matters Committee will hold its next meeting on June 20, 2011 in the PACTV conference room. Citizens may purchase a copy of the Selectmen’s May 10th Forum on Nuclear Power at PACTV for a nominal fee, he noted.

Donation to Shichigahama Relief Fund – Selectman Muratore was pleased to announce that the members of the Cheshire County YMCA of Keene, New Hampshire—who raised and donated \$1,000 to the Shichigahama Relief Fund in early May—recently sent yet another donation of \$600.

Solid Waste Advisory Committee – Vice Chairman Mahoney reported that the Solid Waste Advisory Committee (“SWAC”) is awaiting DPW Director Jonathan Beder’s presentation on solid waste options. Selectman Muratore asked that the members of SWAC be invited to hear the presentation on solid waste options when it is presented to the Board.

Plymouth County Advisory Board – Chairman Hallisey noted that the Plymouth County Advisory Board will meet on June 9, 2011 to review the County’s FY2012 budget.

Extended Building Committee – Chairman Hallisey indicated that the Extended Building Committee continues to meet on the Plymouth North High School and Council on Aging projects, both of which are moving along well.

OLD BUSINESS / LETTERS / NEW BUSINESS

Superintendent’s DreamRide – Selectman Harnais announced that School Superintendent Gary Maestas embarked upon his DreamRide cycling trip on June 6, 2011 from Washington, D.C. and arrived in Philadelphia on the afternoon of June 7, 2011. Selectman Harnais noted that he will accompany Superintendent Maestas and several other cyclists on Sunday, June 12th for the final leg of the journey from the Statehouse in Boston to Jordan Hospital in Plymouth.

PACCIE Cable Access Award – Selectman Muratore was pleased to report that his local cable access show, “Today in Plymouth,” won a “PACCIE” award for government programming from PACTV (Plymouth Area Community Television). The show, he said, gears towards informing the public on how town government works, and ten different episodes on various topics have been filmed, to date.

ADJOURNMENT OF MEETING

On a motion by Selectman Muratore, seconded by Selectman Harnais, the Board voted to adjourn its meeting at approximately 8:30 p.m. Voted 5-0-0, approved.

Recorded by Tiffany Park, Clerk to the Board of Selectmen

A copy of the June 7, 2011 meeting packet is on file and available for public review in the Board of Selectmen’s office.